

JANUARY 27, 1965

27 January 1965

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REPORT ON CAPTURE OF 4 AGENTS IN ORIENTE

Havana PRENSA LATINA in Spanish 0312 GMT 27 January 1965--E (FOR OFFICIAL USE ONLY)

(Text) Tonight the Revolutionary Armed Forces released the following note on the capture of Eloy Gutierrez Menoyo.

The existence of training camps for mercenaries in the Dominican Republic verified; the Dominican Government involved; plans made to organize and supply guerrillas in the Baracoa region from there:

According to confessions by counterrevolutionary leader Eloy Gutierrez Menoyo and the three other enemy agents captured by army and militia forces in Oriente Province, they left Dominican territory from Punta Presidente, located in Manzanillo Bay in the western extreme of the Dominican Republic, near the Haitian frontier.

The Second Escambray Front, Alpha 66, and MRP counterrevolutionary organizations, according to the prisoners' confessions, are those that had carried out several villainies from Key Williams in the Bahamas, among them the pirate attack against the English ship New Lane or New Land in September 1962 in the port of Caibarien.

With the permission of the Dominican authorities they organized a training camp and a base of operations to be used as a jump-off point for the infiltration into Cuba of successive groups of mercenaries who, leaving from Florida and passing through Puerto Rico, would gather in Punta Presidente, Santo Domingo, where they would be equipped and moved to Cuban territory. Arms acquired in the United States were to be transported by the same route.

The first contingent of 29 mercenaries was already ready to depart for Cuba in four-man groups. When the first group, formed of Eloy Gutierrez Menoyo, Ramon Quesada Gomez, Domingo Ortega Acosta, and Noel Salas Santos, arrived at the end of December, it was immediately detected by peasants who reported its presence in the Revolutionary Forces area. The Revolutionary Forces pursued them incessantly through rough terrain of the Baracoa area to capture the four alive.

Subsequent groups which were to come on 10 and 20 January were prevented from doing so when they lost contact with leader Menoyo because Menoyo lost his means of communication. The following mercenaries remained in Punta Presidente, Dominican Republic: Cecilio Vazquez, a delegate in the Dominican Republic; Reynold Rodriguez, a lieutenant in the Second National Front of Escambray; Zenen Castillo, a sergeant of the Second National Front of Escambray; Alfredo Diaz, a civilian; Ernesto Diaz, master of the launch Bertra; Pedro Diaz, an engineer of the launch Bertra; Sergio Lopez, radio technician; Maximo Hernandez, assistant radio technician; Jose Casanovas "Cuqui," first lieutenant in the Second National Front of Escambray; Miguel Alvarez, a civilian; Jose Mauri, master of the ship Mameyes; Fernando Duarte, a civilian;

Lorimel Rodriguez, a former military man; Mario de la Cruz "Mayito," a former military man; Jesus Ortelio Pineda, a medical aidman; Carlos Paes "Charles," a former military man; Orlando Vega, a former military man; Angel Bano, captain in the Second National Front of Escambray; Rene Cruz, a civilian; Florencio Pernas "Kiko," captain in the Second National Front of Escambray; Rafael Menendez, a military instructor